



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

September 17, 2015

CHAIRMAN RANAE LENTZ, TREASURER  
OHIO REPUBLICAN PARTY STATE CENTRAL  
& EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
211 S. FIFTH STREET  
COLUMBUS, OH 43215

**Response Due Date**  
**10/22/2015**

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00162339

REFERENCE: JULY MONTHLY REPORT (06/01/2015 - 06/30/2015)

Dear Treasurer:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. **Failure to adequately respond by the response date noted above could result in an audit or enforcement action.** Additional information is needed for the following 4 item(s):

1. Commission Regulations require that a committee discloses the identification of all individuals who contribute in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. (11 CFR § 104.3(a)(4)(i)) Identification for an individual is defined as the full name (initials for first or last name are not acceptable), complete mailing address, occupation, and name of employer. (11 CFR § 100.12) Your report discloses contributions from individuals for which the identification is not complete.

The following employer name and occupation entries appear on your report and are not considered acceptable: "BEST EFFORTS / BEST EFFORTS," "INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION OF OHIO / INFORMATION REQUESTED PER BEST EFFORTS," "INFORMATION REQUESTED PER BEST EFFORTS / INFORMATION REQUESTED PER BEST EFFORTS," and "The Flag lady's Flag Store / Requested."

You must provide the missing information, or if you are unable to do so, you must demonstrate that "best efforts" have been used to obtain the information. To establish "best efforts," you must provide the Commission with a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. Establishing "best efforts" is a three-fold process.

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First, your original solicitation must include a clear and conspicuous request for the contributor information and must inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information. (11 CFR § 104.7(b)(1)) See 11 CFR § 104.7(b)(1)(B) for examples of acceptable statements regarding the requirements of federal law.

Second, if the information is not provided, you must make one follow-up, stand alone effort to obtain this information, regardless of whether the contribution(s) was solicited or not. This effort must occur no later than 30 days after receipt of the contribution and may be in the form of a written request or an oral request documented in writing. (11 CFR § 104.7(b)(2)) The requests must:

- clearly ask for the missing information, without soliciting a contribution,
- inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information, and
- if the request is written, include a pre-addressed post card or return envelope.

Third, if you receive contributor information after the contribution(s) has been reported, you should either a) file with your next regularly scheduled report, an amended memo Schedule A listing all the contributions for which additional information was received; or b) file on or before your next regularly scheduled reporting date, amendments to the report(s) originally disclosing the contribution(s). (11 CFR § 104.7(b)(4))

Please amend your report to provide the missing information or a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. For more information on demonstrating "best efforts," please refer to the Campaign Guide.

**2.** Schedule A of your report (see attached) discloses one or more contributions which appear to exceed the limits set forth in the Act. Please be advised that 52 U.S.C. §30116(f) (formerly 2 U.S.C. §441a(f)) and 11 CFR §110.2(d) prohibit a state, district or local party committee (combined) from receiving any contribution from a multicandidate political committee in excess of \$5,000 per calendar year.

If any apparently excessive contribution in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you must amend your original report with the clarifying information.

If any contribution you received exceeds the limits, you may have to refund the

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excessive amount. The funds can be retained if within 60 days of receipt you (1) transferred the excessive amount to an account not used to influence federal elections, and (2) provided written notice to the person making the contribution of the option of receiving a refund. Any request from a donor for a refund must be honored.

If the foregoing conditions transfers to a non-federal account were not met within 60 days of receipt, the excessive amount must be refunded. (11 CFR §103.3(b)(1) and (3))

Please inform the Commission of your corrective action promptly in writing and provide a photocopy of your check for any transfer-out or refund. In addition, any transfers-out or refunds should be disclosed on Schedule B supporting Line 22 or 28 of the report during which the transaction was made.

**3.** A review of the reports filed by your committee indicates that your committee received one or more contributions from "Anthem, Inc. Political Action Committee (Anthem PAC)" which has been disclosed on their report(s) of receipts and disbursements as a contribution for the non-federal account (see attached). Please be advised, contributions deposited in a federal account must meet the following conditions: the contributions are designated or expressly solicited for use in connection with federal elections and contributors are informed that their contributions are subject to the limits and prohibitions of the Act. 11 CFR §102.5(a)

If any apparently misdeposited contribution in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with clarifying information.

If the contribution(s) received was misdeposited into the federal account, you may have to make a refund. If within 30 days of receipt you (1) transferred the misdeposited amount to an account not used to influence federal elections, and (2) provided a written notice to the committee making the contribution of the option of receiving a refund, you may retain the contribution in an account not used to influence federal elections. Any request from a donor for a refund must be honored.

If the foregoing conditions for transfers to a non-federal account were not met within 30 days of receipt, the misdeposited amount must be refunded. (11 CFR §103.3(b)(1))

Please clarify if the contribution(s) received from the disclosed donor's federal

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account was permissible. If the contribution was intended for a non-federal account, please inform the Commission of your corrective action promptly in writing and provide a photocopy of your check for any transfer-out or refund. Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding the misdeposited funds, your prompt action will be taken into consideration.

4. Your report discloses a voided disbursement from "Gridiron Communications" totaling \$6,250.00 on Schedule A supporting Line 15 of the Detailed Summary Page. If the check written by your committee was not cashed, you should itemize the voided check on the original line of disclosure as a negative entry. Line 15 should be used to disclose offsets to operating expenditures (including refunds, rebates, and returns of deposits) received by the committee. Please amend your report to correct this discrepancy or provide clarification regarding this transaction. (52 U.S.C. §30104(b)(2) (formerly 2 U.S.C. §434(b)(2)) and 11 CFR §104.3(a)(2)(vii))

- Your report discloses certain categories of financial activity that have been reflected on the wrong lines of the Detailed Summary Page. For your information and consideration when preparing future filings, contributions from other political committees should be properly disclosed on a separate Schedule A, supporting Line 11(c) of the Detailed Summary Page. Please refer to the instructions for each line when determining the proper categorization(s) for your next filing. (52 U.S.C. §30104(b) (formerly 2 U.S.C §434(b)) and FORM 3X Instructions)

**Please note, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter.** Adequate responses must be received by the Commission on or before the due date noted above to be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action. **Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.**

Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. If you should have any questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1177.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Jones". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

Brian Jones  
Sr. Campaign Finance & Reviewing Analyst  
Reports Analysis Division

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**Excessive Contributions****OHIO REPUBLICAN PARTY STATE CENTRAL & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (C00162339)****Excessive Contributions from Committees**

<b>Contributor Name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Report</b>
MURRAY ENERGY, PAC	6/15/15	\$10,000.00	2015 July Monthly

**SCHEDULE B (FEC Form 3X)**  
**ITEMIZED DISBURSEMENTS**

Use separate schedule(s)  
for each category of the  
Detailed Summary Page

FOR LINE NUMBER:  
(check only one)

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<input type="checkbox"/> 21b	<input type="checkbox"/> 22	<input type="checkbox"/> 23	<input type="checkbox"/> 24	<input type="checkbox"/> 25	<input type="checkbox"/> 26
<input type="checkbox"/> 27	<input type="checkbox"/> 28a	<input type="checkbox"/> 28b	<input type="checkbox"/> 28c	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 29	<input type="checkbox"/> 30b

Any information copied from such Reports and Statements may not be sold or used by any person for the purpose of soliciting contributions or for commercial purposes, other than using the name and address of any political committee to solicit contributions from such committee.

NAME OF COMMITTEE (In Full)

**Anthem, Inc. Political Action Committee (Anthem PAC)**

Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)

**A. Ohio Republican Party - Non Federal Committee**

Mailing Address 211 S. Fifth Street

City State Zip Code  
Columbus OH 43215

Purpose of Disbursement  
Nonfederal Contribution

Candidate Name

Office Sought: ☐ House  
☐ Senate  
☐ President

State: District:

Disbursement For:  
☐ Primary ☐ General  
☐ Other (specify) ▼

Date of Disbursement

M M / D D / Y Y Y Y Y Y  
06 / 18 / 2015

**Transaction ID : 4522B4BBB6F6B20FF7B**

Amount of Each Disbursement this Period

10000.00

**B. Sarah Davis Campaign**

Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)

Mailing Address 4203 Tennyson St.

City State Zip Code  
Houston TX 77005

Purpose of Disbursement  
Nonfederal Contribution

Candidate Name

Office Sought: ☐ House  
☐ Senate  
☐ President

State: District:

Disbursement For:  
☐ Primary ☐ General  
☐ Other (specify) ▼

Date of Disbursement

M M / D D / Y Y Y Y Y Y  
06 / 22 / 2015

**Transaction ID : 39DE1EED7031F31F6D4**

Amount of Each Disbursement this Period

1500.00

**C.**

Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)

Mailing Address

City State Zip Code

Purpose of Disbursement

Candidate Name

Office Sought: ☐ House  
☐ Senate  
☐ President

State: District:

Disbursement For:  
☐ Primary ☐ General  
☐ Other (specify) ▼

Date of Disbursement

M M / D D / Y Y Y Y Y Y

Amount of Each Disbursement this Period

**SUBTOTAL** of Disbursements This Page (optional)..... ►

**TOTAL** This Period (last page this line number only)..... ►

11500.00

11500.00